regard to the political situation; and therefore he did not care to keep the paper which at first he had been careful to obtain; he was satisfied with their verbal statements. That was all he meant, or could have meant. In fact, he was particular to tell them that his taking the paper from them must not be understood as binding him not to reinforce the forts, and they said they did not understand that it did so bind him.

Had Mr. Buchanan changed his policy he would no doubt have returned the paper to these gentlemen, or some of them, or have otherwise informed them of his change of policy. But the act of Major Anderson was not the result of any change of policy on the part of the President, as has been above sufficiently shown.

2. Major Anderson arrived in Charleston Harbor about November 20th, and on the 23d he strongly urged on the Government to garrison Fort Sumter and Castle Pinckney.[1] His own opinion was that such a measure would deter the South Carolinians from attempting to take the forts by violence. But the Government feared that to add to Anderson's force might increase the prevailing excitement, and " lead to serious results." [2] For the same reason, doubtless, the Government refrained from ordering him to occupy Fort Sumter, a much

more tenable post than Fort Moultrie.

The administration were right, as it turned out, in supposing that so long as no change was made in the

[1] Anderson to Cooper ; 1 W. R., 74, 78.
[2] Cooper to Anderson ; 1 W. R., 82.